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ACTION
is assigned to
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United States Senate

December 22, 1976

Respectfully referred to

STATE DEPARTMENT

for such consideration as the communication herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of inclosure.

By direction of

WARREN G. MAGNUSON U. S. S.

Brian D. Reed concerned about Kim Dae Jung a prisoner in S. Korea

Form #1

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY HT DATE

RDS [ ] or XDS [ ] EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS [ ]

DECLASSIFIED [ ] RELEASABLE [X]

RELEASE DENIED [ ]

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

921 11th Ave. E. #2
Seattle, Wash. 98102
December 13, 1976

Warren G. Magnuson, U.S. Senator
1010 5th Avenue
Seattle, Wash. 98105

Honorable Senator Magnuson:

I am writing to request that you aid in bringing the preasure of our government to bear on securing the release of Mr. Kim Dae Jung, a political prisoner in South Korea. Imprisoned for his non-violent, democratic political opposition to the suspension of democratic processes in South Korea, Mr. Kim was the last major electoral opponent of President Park Chung Hee.

The post-Vietnam reassessment of our foreign policy will err if it does not address such issues. For, the paradoxes and the real issues presented by Vietnam must be squarely faced--having resigned a commission as a USAF helicopter pilot(1970-1975)I am deeply concerned in this regard. Our opposition to communism has taken the form of concentration on elements of containment and free market economic development to help the lesser developed countries, but this has been done in such a manner as to overlook the forces of nationalism and human rights. This produced the paradoxes we have faced and precluded any successful policy on Vietnam.

Our opposition to communism must now be done in such a way that it recognizes human rights and nationalism. This is such a fundamental issue that our survival as a humane nation in this over-populated, post-colonial world depends upon the manner in which we address it.

The case of Mr. Kim Dae Jung is but one facet of this issue. Yet it is both significant and urgent. It is significant because of the way in which we address a friendly regime which denies human rights. It is urgent because Mr. Kim is very ill and receiving no medical treatment during a winter in a prison with no heat. He may not live through the winter, much less the next seven and one-half years of his sentence.

Amnesty International has thoroughly investigated the non-violent nature of Mr. Kim's political actions, the manner in which he was abducted from Japan by the Korean CIA, the manner in which his trial last spring was contrary to fairness and justice, and the nature of his imprisonment and serious condition of his health.

On behalf of Amnesty International and of many others of us in America's 'grass roots', I ask you to help secure the release of Mr. Kim. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian D. Roesch